

Friendswood Independent School District  
2017-2018  
Student Handbook

Cline Elementary  
Adopted by the FISD Board of Trustees

Dear Student and Parent:

The Friendswood Independent School District provides this Student Handbook to parents and students to provide you with information about the general rules and guidelines for attending and receiving an education in our schools.

We urge you to read this publication thoroughly and to discuss it among your family. If you have any questions about the information here, we encourage you to ask for an explanation from the student's teacher, the school counselor, or campus administrator.

***These people are here to help you:***

Principal - Barry Clifford  
Assistant Principal - Annetta Dinjar  
Counselor - Michelle Bowman  
School Secretary - Kay Laudig  
Nurse - Dallas Meyer  
Registrar - Jennifer Burris  
Receptionist - Frances Williams

***Our school hours are 8:00 a.m. until 3:05 p.m. The tardy bell will ring at 8:05 a.m. each day. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. until 3:45 p.m.***

Please visit our website at [www.myfisd.com](http://www.myfisd.com) and create an account to access your child's grades (2nd and 3rd grade), lunch account, attendance records, and calendar events and emergency information. To receive Skylert emergency messages please follow the following steps:

1. Go into Family Access through Skyward for your student.
2. Click on Skylert in the box on the left under general information.
3. When the contact box comes up, go to the area texas message numbers. If you wish To receive text messages, input (or update) your cell number there.

## **PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION**

The purpose of this Student Handbook is to give Friendswood ISD students and their parents an understanding of the general rules and guidelines for attending and receiving an education in our schools.

The Handbook is organized in the following sections:

- General Information about admission, attendance, and conduct
- Of Special Interest to Parents
- Curriculum and Program Information
- Required Legal Notices and Information

When the Handbook uses “we” or “our,” it means the school district and/or school administrators. When the Handbook uses “you” or “your,” it means the parent, legal guardian, or person who has accepted responsibility for a student, at least in regard to school matters. From time to time, the Handbook will use more general terms, such as “parents” and “school officials.” Regardless of the particular terminology, our intention is to speak directly to you as the adults who are responsible for working with us, the school officials, to make your children’s experience with the Friendswood public schools a positive educational experience.

The Student Handbook has been developed by school district administrators with assistance of teachers, students, and parents. The content is reviewed by the Board of Trustees and is intended to be consistent with formally adopted school board policies. If there is an apparent contradiction between information in the Handbook and a formally adopted board policy, the school administration will interpret the Handbook in a way that is consistent with policy and may request guidance from the Board of Trustees.

The Student Handbook is not a contract between the school and parents or students. It can be amended at any time at the discretion of the school district. If the district makes changes to the Handbook during a school year, the administration of the district and the campus will communicate those changes in ways that are designed to inform parents and students of the new or revised information.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### ***Student's Legal Name***

While we recognize there are circumstances when a parent may wish his or her child to be enrolled under a name other than the child's legal name, we are required to maintain all school records for your child under the child's legal surname as shown on the birth certificate or other recognized document to prove the child's identity or as shown in a court order changing the child's name.

### ***Residency***

Students must be residents of Friendswood ISD in order to attend FISD schools. Proof of residency must be provided to the campus registrar at the time of registration. A current utility bill and lease agreement with parent/guardian name and physical address is considered proof. Any person who knowingly falsifies information on a form required for a student's enrollment in the District shall be liable to the District for full tuition if the student is not eligible for enrollment. Presenting a false document or record under Section 21.0313 of the Texas Education Code is an offense under Section 37.10, Penal Code. Students found to be residing out of the District's boundaries will be immediately withdrawn from school.

### ***Admission, Release, Withdrawal***

These are the basic requirements for admission to district schools:

1. The student must live in the district with a parent or legal guardian or one of the student's parents must live in the district, even if the student does not live with that parent.
2. To be eligible for admission based on just the parent's residence in the district, the court that issued a final order in a divorce proceeding must have designated that parent as a managing or possessory conservator for the child.
3. The parent enrolling a student based on only the parent's residence in the district must provide a copy of a current final order, signed by the judge and showing a file stamp from the court designating the parent as a managing or possessory conservator.
4. The student is under age 18 and lives in the district with an adult resident of the district who has accepted a Power of Attorney from the child's parent or legal guardian. The school district has Power of Attorney forms to be completed by both the parent and the person the student lives with.
5. Students under the age of 18 must be enrolled by a parent, legal guardian, or adult resident who has a valid Power of Attorney for the student. Students who are 18 or older, who are legally married, or who have ever been legally married, and who have not graduated from high school can enroll themselves.
6. The adult enrolling the student must present current immunization records or make arrangements to begin immunizations as soon as possible.
7. No later than 30 days after a student has been enrolled, the adult enrolling the student must provide a copy of a birth certificate or other acceptable identification for the child and copies of the education records from the school the child last attended.

8. Your child must be 5 years old on or before September 1 of the current school year to be admitted to kindergarten. To be admitted to first grade, your child must be 6 years old on or before September 1 of the current year or must have completed kindergarten, or been enrolled in first grade, in the public schools of another state. Any student may be accelerated one grade if he/she passes four credit exam tests for the grade level they are to be accelerated through with a grade of 90 percent. The acceleration grade tests are administered in June and July each year, and parents register in April and May with the campus counselor. The test is free but there is a deposit charge at the time of registration. If the child takes the tests, the deposit is returned. Each test is about three hours. The tested areas are language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. A 5 year old child may attend first grade if they meet the following criteria: 90 percentile on the Texas Tech Kindergarten Test, and Pass the First Grade fall screening portion of the DRA/PAPI, and Developmental Age of 6 61/2 on the Gesell, and Conference with principal.
9. The application for admission and enrollment forms are official government records, and it is a crime to provide false information of any kind or false records for identification. School officials can ask parents or another adult enrolling a student to provide some evidence that they are bona fide residents of the school district. As required by law, we will record the name, address, and date of birth of the person enrolling a student. Refer to board Policy FD (legal) and FD (local) for residency questions.
10. If school officials have reason to question the legitimacy of a child's residency information, they can investigate to determine the student's actual place of residence. If the district finds that a student is not really a district resident, the student will be withdrawn, and school officials will take the necessary legal steps to recover the maximum tuition fee the school district can charge or the amount the board of trustees budgets as an expense per student.

### ***Attendance Zones***

The Board of Trustees has established geographic boundaries for each school, and students generally must attend the schools in the zone for their street address. You can make a written request for your child to attend a particular school and will have a chance to explain to the superintendent why you think your request should be granted. The superintendent will make final decisions on which school a child attends.

### ***Release During the School Day***

Students will be allowed to leave school during the school day only with the permission of the principal or someone in the principal's office who has been given the authority to release students. Parents cannot go directly to their children's classroom and take the child away from school during the day. Teachers do not have the authority to let children leave their classroom with anyone. If you need to take your child from school before the end of the school day, such as for a medical appointment or a family emergency, you should go to the front office and sign the child out. The teacher will send the child to the front office, and she or he will be released to you at that time.

Please allow for this extra time when picking up your child for an appointment. Students will not be called to the front office before the parent arrives in order to maximize the student's learning time. When the student returns to school, he/she must sign in at the front office and show confirmation from the dentist or doctor. Appointments should be made so a student can be in attendance during the day.

Please note the following: If any person other than the parent is to pick up the child, the child must have a statement, in writing, from the parent specifying the information. The emergency contacts on the school records have the ability to pick up the child without a written statement from the parent(s) in the event of an emergency.

At the time children are enrolled, the parent or other adult completing the enrollment forms should list those people who are authorized to pick up children during the school day. Please inform the office of any legal custody situation procedures for a child. Unless the principal has a current court order signed by a judge, showing an official file stamp with the court, and indicating that a parent's right of access to and possession of his or her children has been limited in some way, the principal will release children to either parent. Students will not ordinarily be released during the school day to participate in private lessons or other instruction. If you believe you have a special situation that would warrant an exception to this rule, please contact the campus principal to schedule a conference about your situation and obtain notice of approval.

No transportation changes will be made after 2:45 p.m. No transportation changes made by phone, fax or email will be accepted. Reminder that a note sent by the parent regarding changes in transportation is important to the safety of the child's release. IDENTIFICATION WILL BE CHECKED ON ANYONE PICKING UP A STUDENT.

### ***Withdrawing from School***

Children who are under age 18 will not be permitted to withdraw from school unless a parent, legal guardian, or other adult with responsibility for the child comes to the school to complete the necessary forms. Students must return all textbooks issued to them and clear any library fines and other outstanding fees in order for the school to release an official copy of the student's records to the parents or to another school district.

### ***Attendance Requirements***

State compulsory attendance laws generally require all children between the ages of six and 18 to attend school each day that school is in session. A student who is younger than six and has ever been enrolled in the first grade is required to attend school. Once a parent enrolls a child in kindergarten or prekindergarten, the child is required to attend school that school year. Regular attendance is critical to your child's success in school. It is also critical to the school district's success because it is a factor in the district and campus rating under the state accountability system and is a determining factor in the amount of state financial aid the district is entitled to receive. School officials enforce the state compulsory attendance laws.

Following any absence from school the student must bring a written statement from the parent explaining the absence. A note from the parent or guardian must be presented to the attendance office within three (3) days of the students return to school. If the written statement is not brought by the third day, the absence will be considered unexcused (see Code of Conduct).

Doctor and Dental Appointments: Absences for appointments with doctors, dentists, orthodontists, physical therapists, and other health care professionals will be counted as having attended school if the student returns to school on the same day as the appointment and presents a note from the health care provider stating the time of the appointment and the time the student left the doctor's office.

Religious Holidays: Absences for religious holy days, including up to two days of travel time if necessary, will be classified as excused absences.

Perfect Attendance Awards: Certificates will be awarded each 9 weeks to students with no absences, part of day absences or tardies.

### ***Attendance and Credit***

Separate and apart from the compulsory attendance requirements, students must attend school a certain amount of time in order to get credit for their academic work. State law requires students to be "in attendance" for at least 90 percent of the days a class is taught during a semester or year.

Each campus has an attendance committee that will review student attendance records. If the committee decides that extenuating circumstances prevented a student from meeting the minimum attendance for credit standard, the committee can award credit or tell the student what additional work or time needs to be completed in order for the student to get credit for the grade level or course. You will be notified when your child is in danger of losing credit because of absences and will have the chance to meet with the attendance committee to discuss your child's situation.

### ***Part of Day Attendance Procedures***

These procedures refer to absences that constitute parts of the day. Part of the day on FISD Elementary and Intermediate campuses will be defined as leaving or arriving at school 20 minutes before or after the bell ending or beginning the school day. Part of day absences are to be documented by a note containing the reason for the absence, time of day arriving or leaving, and the date of the absence. Parents are expected to bring a note when they bring a student late or pick him/her up early. If a note is not presented, a form requiring a documented reason for absence will be required at the campus. This attendance documentation will be kept in the VSoft System and in hard copy by the campus designee. If an unaccompanied student arrives without a note, a note must be presented within 3 days or it will not be accepted as excused unless allowed by the principal.

***Excused Absences : Absences documented as excused include:***

1. Personal Illness – Parent note detailing illness or situation related to illness.
2. Medical Appointment – Note from the doctor, dentist, orthodontist or other registered healthcare professional for part of the day missed.
3. School Business – School business approved by principal or assistant principal.
4. Other absences excused by the principal.
5. Excused absences per Board Policy FEA Legal and FEA local or the student handbook.

Excused absences will not count toward truancy for part of day attendance. However, they may be considered if the child has excessive absences in relation to the requirement for 90% attendance for a semester.

***Unexcused Absences : Absences documented as unexcused include:***

1. Personal Business – Absences resulting from personal business for student or family members including but not limited to vacations, trips, extracurricular activities, personal lessons.
2. Undocumented Absences – Absences that are not documented with a parent note.

All unexcused absences will be considered for truancy and for excessive absences in relation to the requirement for 90% attendance for a semester.

***Truancy***

Only those absences that are unexcused as designated above will count toward the process described below. Those absences that are excused will not be considered for truancy:

1. When a student accumulates 3 or more days of unexcused absences in a 4 week period, the parent will be contacted.
2. If notes are not sent within two days of the contact to eliminate the “unexcused” issue, a letter of notification will be sent.
3. If student’s unexcused absences continue to accumulate to 6 or more within a 6 month period, an “unexcused absences: second warning” letter will be sent.
4. A meeting will be held to develop a “truancy prevention plan”.
5. If the truancy prevention plan has been followed but unexcused absences continue to mount, the school may file a complaint with the truancy court.

***Tardy Policy***

The school regards punctuality as essential to the successful operation of a learning program. Persistent tardiness to school causes distractions and interruptions to the learning process, which are detrimental to the student involved and to his classmates. Disciplinary action (lunch detention) will be incurred on the fourth (4 th) unexcused tardy and every unexcused tardy thereafter until the end of each nine week period.

### ***Requests For Assignments***

When a student is ill and is absent two or more days, a request to pick up assignments may be made. Please call the school office before nine o'clock to make the request and allow a full day before picking up assignments. Students have one day for each day absence to make up work.

### ***Conduct and Discipline***

Along with this Student Handbook, your child has also received a copy of the FISSD Student Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct contains the school district's requirements for student conduct and behavior while at school or under the school's jurisdiction. The Code of Conduct also explains the kinds of disciplinary action school officials can take in response to violations of the rules for student conduct and the steps involved in taking disciplinary action. If you have any questions about conduct or discipline rules, please refer to the Code of Conduct or call your child's principal.

### ***FISSD District Dress Code***

The Friendswood Independent School District (FISSD) maintains dress and grooming standards because students should dress and groom themselves in a manner considered acceptable and appropriate by the community. FISSD believes the business of school is learning, and school dress and grooming standards should support the learning environment, along with promoting a safe, orderly learning environment. The FISSD Dress Code is also established to teach grooming, hygiene, instill discipline and modesty, teach respect for authority, and prepare students for the future. School is a place of business, therefore the dress and grooming of a student should reflect the serious intent of one who is going to work. Accordingly, dress and grooming standards should promote a businesslike atmosphere which is comfortable, but not too casual, free from disruption, and easily enforced by teachers and administrators.

The parent and student shall be responsible for ensuring the student is in compliance with all aspects of the Dress Code when the student enters the school premises, and during the time the student is on school premises during school hours. Each student and parent shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the standards presented in the campus Manual/Handbook. Failure to comply will result in the student being required to change clothes, and/or correct the infraction to meet the standards. Any clothing deemed inappropriate for the educational setting by the administration; along with the ruling of the building principal regarding compliance or noncompliance with the Dress code and the corresponding consequences assigned for the violation are final. Students whose religious beliefs require exemptions from the District's Dress Code in any way may be granted an exemption, provided the student presents a written statement, expressing a religious objection to the Dress Code which the District determines valid. The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming, provided the following standards are met:

1. Hair must be a color that can be grown naturally, neat and well groomed. Mohawk type haircuts, distracting styles, hair carvings, shaved designs or lines are not permitted.

2. Hats, caps, sport type headbands, or any other types of head covering garments are not to be worn on campuses during school hours. No hooded sweatshirts should be worn with the hood on inside the building. Bandanas may not be worn or carried.
3. Students must be clean shaven. Goatees, beards and moustaches or any other facial hair are prohibited.
4. A modest appearance must be maintained when standing, sitting, or bending.
5. Inappropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to strapless garments, spaghetti straps, low cut shirts, tube tops, open underarm shirts, see through/ fishnet shirts, tank tops, pajama tops or bottoms, boxer shorts, and clothes which exposes the midriff or the underarm. At the PreKinder through 5th grade levels, tank tops are acceptable with straps wider than a 3finger width strap. At the 6th through 12th grade levels, all shirts/blouses/dresses are to have fully attached sleeves, shoulders must be covered at all times.
6. Pants or shorts shall be appropriately sized and worn at the natural waist with or without a belt. Oversized or excessively baggy clothes are not permitted.
7. Shorts, skirts, or dresses, to include top of slit on short, skirt or dress, must be middle fingertip length.
8. Cutoffs and jeans with tears above the knee are not permitted.
9. Leggings, yoga pants, spandex, biking shorts, or similar material (except those that are worn in a school sponsored activity) cannot be worn unless they are covered by shorts, a skirt/dress or shirt which meets the middle fingertip length.
10. Appropriate undergarments must be worn, and must not be visible at any time.
11. Full length coats, such as those commonly referred to as "trench" coats are not permitted.
12. Non wheeled shoes are to be worn at all times. House shoes/slippers are not permitted.
13. Permanent or nonpermanent tattoos, along with writing, drawing or stamping on the skin cannot be visible.
14. Body piercings are limited to the ear. Plugs, tunnels, and spacers are not permitted, along with eyebrow, nose and tongue rings.
15. Jewelry, heavy chains or trinkets may not be noisy or distracting. Any accessory which could be deemed unsafe, to include, but not limited to spiked bracelets/chokers/watch-bands, dog collars, or locks are not permitted.
16. Any clothing or accessory which may be deemed to represent gang affiliation (real or implied) are not permitted, along with any clothing or accessory which may be deemed to be offensive or degrade any student population. This includes Gothic style dress.
17. Any clothing or accessory which advertises or is related to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sex, or any other substances students are prohibited from having at school, are not permitted. Students may not wear suggestive or inappropriately located decorative patches, insignia, or clothing with improper advertising, pictures. slogans or statements.
18. Clothing or accessories that in any way suggest disrespect for the American flag are not permitted. Slogans or drawings representing local, country, state or federal detentions are not permitted.

### ***Sexual Harassment***

We prohibit students from sexually harassing other students and from sexually harassing employees. Engaging in sexual harassment is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. We, of course, prohibit employees from having any kind of sexual contact or romantic relationship with students enrolled in our schools, even if the student is willing and the parents do not object. If you or your child have a complaint about sexual comments, conduct, contact or any other inappropriate conduct by a school employee, do not hesitate to contact the school principal or the Title IX coordinator whose name appears at the beginning of this Handbook. We will listen to your concern and conduct a prompt investigation. We also will look into reports that other students have been making sexual comments to or engaging in sexual or other inappropriate conduct or contact with your child at school or school activities and take appropriate disciplinary action according to the requirements of the Code of Conduct.

Although we will provide you a general report of the results of our investigation of sexual harassment complaints, the same federal law that protects the confidentiality of information about your child (see Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) protects the confidentiality of information about the student you reported for investigation. In other words, we will not disclose to you the actual discipline imposed on another student, unless that student's parents give us permission to disclose that information. If the complaint is about an employee's conduct, we will inform you of the results of the investigation and of the general action taken in response if there is a finding of wrongdoing on the employee's part. Your child's principal can give you a copy of the entire sexual harassment policy and complaint process and will be glad to answer any questions you may have about this subject.

### ***Procedures for Reporting Allegations of Bullying Friendswood ISD***

Friendswood ISD prohibits bullying on school property, at school-sponsored or school-related activities, or in any vehicle operated by the district. Texas Education Code Section 37.0832 defines bullying as: A single significant act, or a pattern of acts, by one or more students directed at another student which exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that satisfies the applicability requirements provided by subsection:

- has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property;
- is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student;
- materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
- infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Cyberbullying means bullying which is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera,

electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.

Texas Education Code 37 allows for expulsion or DAEP for a student who 1) engages in bullying that encourages suicide; 2) incites violence through group bullying; or 3) releases or threatens to release “intimate visual material” of a minor or an adult student without consent.

The district does not tolerate bullying, and any student or parent of a student who believes a student has engaged in bullying is highly encouraged to immediately report the incident. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of district policy and is prohibited. Reports of an alleged bullying incident may be submitted orally or in writing, to a teacher, counselor, principal or other district employee. Reports may also be submitted electronically, either anonymously or non-anonymously through the following website.

<https://asp.schoolmessenger.com/fisd12/quicktip/index.php>

This link can be found on the district website [myfisd.com](http://myfisd.com) under the Parents & Students tab.

**Friendswood ISD encourages you to communicate with your designated campus administrator on any alleged bullying.**

### ***Searches of Students and School Property***

The principal or other school administrator can search a student’s outer clothing, pockets, or property if she or he has a reasonable basis to suspect that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated a school rule. The scope of the search will be related to the suspected violation.

### ***Questioning Students at School***

As school officials, we have the right to question your child about his or her own conduct at school and, in the investigation of alleged misconduct by other students, to question him or her about the conduct of others. We expect students to cooperate in this process, and the refusal to cooperate will be treated as insubordination. We will not ordinarily contact you before questioning your child about his or her own conduct or about the conduct of other students, but certainly will contact you promptly if our investigation shows that your child has violated school conduct rules. The Code of Conduct provides a complete explanation of the discipline processes and when you will be contacted. Our investigation of possible violations of the Code of Conduct is not a criminal proceeding, and there is no such thing as “taking the Fifth” or a student’s right not to incriminate himself or herself in a school discipline investigation.

Sometimes law enforcement officials or investigators from Child Protective Services (CPS) ask to interview students at school. In the case of an investigator from Child Protective Services conducting a child abuse or neglect investigation, we are required by state law to permit the investigator to talk to the child at school. We will also make every effort to cooperate with law enforcement officials conducting an investigation that requires talking to students.

### ***Pledges of Allegiance and a Minute of Silence***

Texas law requires students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag each day. Parents may submit a written request to the principal to excuse their child from reciting a pledge. A minute of silence will follow recitation of the pledges. The student may choose to reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity so long as the silent activity does not interfere with or distract others.

### ***Prayer and Meditation***

Each student has a right to individually, voluntarily, and silently pray or meditate in school or any school activity in a manner that does not disrupt or interfere with the delivery of instruction or other activities in the school. No school employee can or will require, encourage, or coerce a student to engage in or to refrain from such prayer or meditation during any school activity.

## ***OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO PARENTS***

### ***Arrival and Dismissal***

Classes at Cline Elementary begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:05 p.m. for K ,1st, 2nd and 3rd grades.

### ***Bus Transportation***

Bus rules have been formulated to provide the safest and most efficient transportation of students to and from school and/or related activities. In order to comply with state laws regarding student transportation, students may only be picked up or dropped off at their residence, the residence of a grandparent, or a licensed child care facility. Parents should designate the point of pickup and dropoff at the beginning of the year. Bus drivers will not be allowed to change the point of pickup or dropoff.

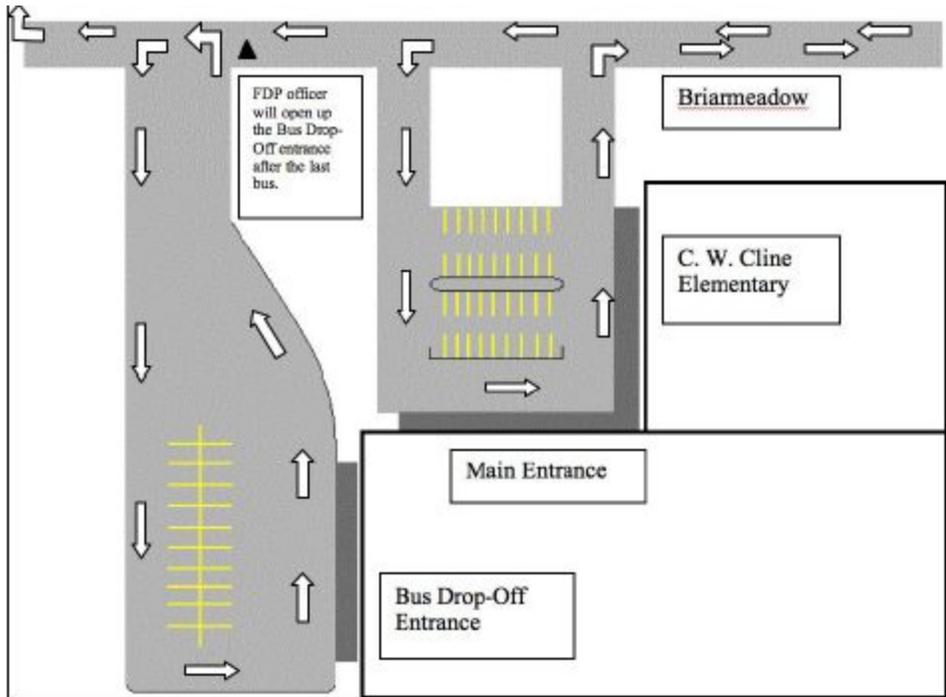
Notes for special transportation arrangements will not be accepted by FISD bus drivers. Should a child need to be picked up or dropped off at a point different than that designated by the parent, then transportation must be provided by the parent. Students may ONLY ride their assigned bus. Additional bus regulations are found in the Student Code of Conduct. Further information may be obtained from the Transportation Office at 281-996-2500.

### ***Traffic at Cline Elementary***

Please be aware of the **one-way** traffic at C.W. Cline Elementary. From 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the bus drive is reserved for buses only. Cars may drop and pick up in the front drive. All Cline car riders and walking students will be picked up in the front of Cline. Drivers and walk ups must have a Cline pickup authorization card placed on the front dashboard or in hand.

There will be someone to manage the traffic flow. He/she will be there to ensure your child's safety. Safety is first and foremost in our plans for traffic flow.

A Friendswood Police Officer will direct traffic straight in front of the school. After the last bus has departed the officer will open up two drop off points. There will be one dropoff point at Cline's main entrance and one at the west end or the bus drop off entrance. The Main Entrance Drop Off will exit by turning right only onto Briar Meadow. The Bus Entrance will exit by turning left only then a right turn only on Sunset.



***DRIVE UP AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WHEN LOADING AND UNLOADING STUDENTS.***

Students are to unload from the passenger side of the vehicle. Please do not drop off students in the middle of the parking lot. You will need to park in the reserved visitor parking area and walk your child up to the school.

***Smoking***

Smoking or the use of tobacco products on school property or at any school related or school sanctioned activity, on or off school property, is prohibited.

***Messages and Telephones***

Messages and deliveries from home are to be left at the receptionist's desk. Students will be called out of class only in an emergency. Students may use the telephone with the permission of their teacher or an administrator for reasons that are appropriate.

***Textbooks***

Textbooks are furnished by the state and are issued at the beginning of the year. Students who lose or damage a book that is assigned to them will be expected to pay for it. All assigned textbooks must be covered.

### ***Care of School Property***

Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, supplies, and furniture supplied by the school. Students who disfigure property, break windows, or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage or replace the item.

### ***Unauthorized Items Brought to School***

Cline Elementary desires to give your child the best in academic instruction with as little distraction as possible. The students are not allowed to bring items to school that could be dangerous, or that will distract or disrupt. In special instances the teacher may give permission for specific items to be brought for a special event. Unauthorized items will be taken up and the parent will have to come to get them. The school will not be responsible for the loss or damage of items brought to school.

### ***Lost, Damaged, or Stolen Personal Items***

We ask that you discourage your child from wearing or bringing to school expensive or irreplaceable jewelry, watches, sunglasses, or personal clothing that may be removed during the days, such as winter coats. Students are responsible for all their personal possessions while at school or any school sponsored or school related event. It is important that you understand the school district is not responsible for any personal items that are lost, damaged, or stolen at school or a school related activity. Students who find lost articles are asked to give them to their teacher or the main office. Lost clothing articles are placed in the coat closet by the cafeteria's stage. Lost clothing articles, which are not claimed within a reasonable time (June) will be given to a local charity.

### ***School Supplies***

A supply list has been furnished for your child either in the report card at the end of last school year or at the time of new student enrollment. Some of the items on this list will need to be replenished from time to time during the school year.

### ***Food of Minimal Nutritional Value FMNV***

A Child Nutrition policy was developed by the Texas Department of Agriculture in 2002 prohibiting serving Food of Minimal Nutritional Value at school. Elementary classrooms may serve one nutritious snack per day not during lunchtime and under the teacher's guidance. Refrain from using candy or food as a reward. Teachers may provide a nutritional snack in the day during noncompetitive hours. Teachers may use food for instructional purposes as long as the food items are not considered FMNV's or candy. Please be very sensitive to any food allergies students in your classroom may have. This policy does not apply to: school nurses dispensing FMNV's to students, special needs students as noted in their IEP, and the three school holiday celebrations. Field trips are also exempt from this rule.

### ***Parties***

There are three state approved parties during each school year. These parties will be planned and conducted by parent volunteers in accordance to school party guidelines. No other parties will be allowed during school time. Each student may have one visitor attend one of the 3 parties. The visitor will need to sign up to be on the visitor list prior to the party. Visitor lists will close to changes one week prior to the party.

### ***Birthdays***

Teachers or students may not send home party invitations to other students. Please refer to your class list to contact parents for parties from your home or by mail. Birthdays are announced daily in the classroom. We ask that birthday celebrations be spent with the family. Birthday gift deliveries are not permitted during school hours as it distracts from the learning environment. Although the state has modified the FMNV law to allow birthday cupcakes, they can only be served during noncompetitive hours (NOT during lunch). Therefore, in order to preserve teaching time, birthday celebration/cupcakes will not be allowed at school.

### ***Animals***

For the safety of all our students, no pets or animals of any kind will be allowed at school (this includes show and tell). Science curriculum requiring animals will be allowed with coordination and prior approval of teachers and administrators only.

### ***Field Trips***

Student field trips are planned to enhance the learning of our students. Each teacher makes decisions about class field trips which are most appropriate for his/her students. On occasions, these trips may be taken by a whole grade level. Since each teacher makes different decisions about instructional field trips, there may be a variation in the number each class takes; however, there is no difference in the number of opportunities based on grade level and/or calendar. The most important considerations in field trip selection are the budget and the appropriateness of the learning experience. All students attending school sponsored field trips are required to ride the bus to and from the field trip site. In the case of an emergency situation, please contact the principal to discuss options.

### ***PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY***

Cline Elementary recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school to educate all students effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. Although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. This school, in collaboration with parents, shall establish programs and practices that enhance parent involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families. To this end, Cline Elementary supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of a parent involvement program, which will involve parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles. The parent involvement programs will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. They will include, but not be limited to, the following components of successful parent involvement programs:

1. Communication between home and school is regular, two way, and meaningful.
2. Responsible parenting is promoted and supported.
3. Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.
4. Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are actively sought.
5. Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families.
6. Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.
7. Parents will be involved in the process of setting goals, determining practice and making decisions through representation in the Campus Improvement Committee.

The schools support professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies. The schools also recognize the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation. Cline Elementary's staff believes that engaging parents is essential to improved student achievement and is committed to this goal.

### ***TITLE ONE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY***

There exists significant research describing the positive impact on student achievement resulting from meaningful parental involvement. Friendswood Independent School District encourages the active involvement of all parents in the education of their children. To specifically encourage parental involvement in the Title One program, the following activities will be offered:

1. An annual meeting of Title One parents will be held to inform parents of their school's participation in Title One, to explain the Title One Parental Involvement Policy, and to review parents' rights to be involved in Title One activities.
2. An opportunity will be provided to Title One parents to become involved in Title One planning, review, and improvement efforts.
3. Parents of Title One children will be provided with: timely information about Title One programs, school and individual assessment information and results, including an explanation of those results, information about curriculum and the levels students are expected to achieve, opportunities for regular meetings related to the education of their children, and timely responses to parent inquiries and suggestions.
4. Parents and school staff, where appropriate, will jointly develop and commit to a Homeschool compact. This compact will detail how parents, staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student achievement.
5. Parents will be provided with opportunities to improve their skills so they may effectively work with their children to improve achievement.
6. Opportunities for Title One parental involvement will be coordinated and integrated with those opportunities offered through other programs to the extent feasible and appropriate.

### ***Right to Request Teacher Qualifications Annual Parent Notice***

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires school districts to notify parents at the

beginning of each school year that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teacher. ESSA also requires that parents be notified if their child has been assigned or taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements. Texas law requires that parents be notified if their child is assigned for more than 30 consecutive instructional days to a teacher who does not hold an appropriate teaching certificate.

Inappropriately certified or uncertified teachers include individuals on an emergency permit, those waiting to take a certification exam, and individuals who do not hold any certificate or permit. Employees who have questions about their certification can contact the Human Resources department.

### ***Visitors and Volunteers***

In order to establish routines, accommodate the large number of unscheduled visitors, and have adequate presence of administrators, parents may visit for lunch on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. Our campus will be closed to visitors during the first two weeks of school, the last two weeks of school, and the weeks of state assessment to allow for the varied schedules of lunches. Outside food may be brought in for their student only. No sharing of food is allowed as per state policy.

You are encouraged to visit your children's schools from time to time; however, we ask that you comply with our policy requiring all visitors to go first to the office and sign in, produce appropriate identification, state purpose for visit, and obtain a visitor's badge. We have this policy for the safety of your children and our staff. Parents and any other person on campus without the principal's knowledge will be considered as trespassers. Administration will limit all classroom visit time. Parent visits should be scheduled through the front office, and may not exceed 45 minutes. Administrators may accompany visitors in the classroom. In order to minimize classroom disruptions and allow instruction to continue, we ask parents to strictly use the visit for silent observations. Should a parent wish to discuss the observation either with the teacher or Administrator, a conference should also be scheduled during non-instructional time. We encourage you to come to school occasionally and eat lunch with your child; however, children can be removed from the campus during lunch period only by following the established process of signing the child out from the office. Unless we have possession of a court document that limits a possessory conservator's (that is the parent who does not ordinarily have custody of the student) access to their child while at school, we will permit either parent to eat lunch with their children at school. We encourage you to be involved in your children's education and knowledgeable about their classes, teachers, and curriculum.

### ***Visitors On Campus – VSoft***

Registered Sex Offender (RSO)

If the RSO is a parent:

1. The receptionist/secretary or other person receiving the "ALERT" on the computer should immediately notify the Principal, Assistant Principal or other designated administrator on the campus about the presence of the RSO.

2. The principal, assistant principal, security personnel or designee should watch or stay with the RSO while he/she is on campus.
3. At NO TIME shall any registered sex offender be permitted to mingle with the student population or walk through the school unescorted.
4. Registered Sex Offenders are not permitted to eat lunch with their children in the lunchroom.
5. Those wishing to do so will be provided a separate area (not in the lunchroom and under supervision).
6. Registered Sex Offenders who require a teacher conference shall do so when other children are not in class and separated from the student population (i.e. before or after school in the office area).
7. Registered Sex Offenders shall conduct their business in the front office area only.
8. If the RSO is not cooperative with the administrator's directives, then the campus security personnel or district security manager should be notified via Nextel or telephone for assistance. If the situation escalates prior to response from security personnel, contact local law enforcement via 911.

If the RSO is not a parent:

1. The receptionist/secretary or other person receiving the "ALERT" on the computer should immediately notify the Principal, Assistant Principal or other designated administrator on the campus about the presence of the RSO.
2. If the RSO is a nonparent, including contractor or vendor, access to the campus or building should not be allowed.
3. If the RSO is not cooperative with the administrator's directives, then the campus security personnel or district security manager should be notified via Nextel or telephone for assistance. If the situation escalates prior to response from security personnel, contact local law enforcement via 911.

NOTE: In all cases, end users should not panic. This person could be a parent with a past history, which may have happened a long time ago. End users should not react any differently than with other visitors.

False Matches:

1. While we are requiring visitors to produce a state-issued ID, we realize that there may be some occasions where this is not possible. In that event, you may request another form of picture identification that provides name and date of birth.
2. The system only checks first name, last name, and date of birth. Therefore, it is possible to have a "false match" of someone with the same name and birthdate.
3. Some states use age instead of dateofbirth as a database field. Therefore, it increases the chance of a "false match" in that a person may have the same first name, last name and be of the same age as a registered offender.
4. Comparing the picture on the computer alert with the person checking in is the best way to determine if the match is legitimate or not.

5. If there is no picture on the computer alert, the following items may be checked for verification: middle name, description (race, eyes, height, etc.), and incarceration status. Note: The State of Indiana's database contains many records with no photograph. It is not uncommon to get a match from Indiana without a photo. When "false matches" are noted on the computer, Raptor Technologies verifies the submission and will contact the district if the match is, indeed, accurate. If you get a "false match" and the visitor becomes aware of the match, please assure them that the system only searches on name and date of birth. This should alleviate any concerns of identity theft.

### ***Parent Teacher Organization (P.T.O.)***

Our P.T.O. is an exceptionally strong supportive arm for the faculty and staff. Countless hours are expended on student related activities. Financially the P.T.O. has taken the lead in supporting our technology program. We encourage you to join the Cline P.T.O.

### ***Cafeteria/Lunches***

Nutritious lunches are available every day in the cafeteria. Students may select from a choice of entrées, side dishes, and milk. All menus meet the United States Department of Agriculture nutritional guidelines. Additional entrees, side dishes, and milk may also be purchased as a la carte.

### ***Meal Payments***

Parents may access their child's meal payment balance online and add money to the child's account using a Visa or MasterCard. Simply go to <http://friendswood.revtrak.net> and click on the Meal Payments option. Enter the student's name, ID number, and payment amount. Check out to complete the payment process. Parents may also put money on their child's account by bringing cash or check to the cafeteria manager. Please write the child's name and ID number on the check. Insert the cash into an envelope and write the child's name and ID number on the outside. Failure to clearly identify the child associated with the money will delay the payment process.

### ***Free and Reduced Lunches***

The district participates in the National School Lunch Program and offers free and reduced price meals. This is based on a student's financial need. Information about this program may be obtained from the school office.

### ***Behavior In The Cafeteria***

Students are expected to exhibit orderly behavior and to follow the rules of the cafeteria.

### ***Lunch Visitors***

Parents eating in the cafeteria should check in at the office, wear a visitor sticker, and wait outside the cafeteria for their student's class to arrive. Students are allowed to eat outside with their own visiting parent(s).

### ***Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV)***

Due to state law, parents are only allowed to send and/or bring food for their own child.

### ***Student Illness or Injury at School***

For the protection of all students the following health rules have been set up and will be followed at all times. A child CANNOT REMAIN at school with:

1. Fever of 100 degrees or over
2. Undiagnosed rash or weeping sores
3. Vomiting
4. Diarrhea
5. Red, discharging eyes or
6. Any illness making him/her feel too badly to participate.

A student having ANY of the above symptoms in the morning before school should stay at home for observation and care. There are limited facilities for giving students bed rest, BUT ONLY until arrangements can be made for him/her to go home. All students who have been absent should bring a note stating the reason for the absence. If the student was absent because of a communicable disease, please state the disease. The periods of exclusion for the most common communicable diseases are:

1. Be free of fever for 24 hrs. without Tylenol/Advil
2. Strep Throat & Scarlet Fever Be on antibiotic for 24 hrs. and be free of fever for 24hrs. without Tylenol/Advil
3. MRSA May return 24 hrs. after antibiotic has begun
4. Pink Eye May return 24 hrs. after medication begun or Dr. note
5. Chicken Pox Until all sores are scabbed over, but no more than 7 days from outbreak
6. Head Lice Have been treated with a lice shampoo
7. Impetigo When treatment has begun and sores must be covered
8. Scabies When treatment has begun
9. Influenza (flu) Be free of fever for 24 hrs. without Tylenol/Advil

Parents of a student with a communicable or contagious disease are asked to telephone the school nurse so that the students who have been exposed to the disease can be alerted. A student who has a contagious disease is not allowed to come to school while the disease is contagious. We will promptly attempt to notify you or a person you have authorized us to notify if we have knowledge that your child has been injured at school or has become ill at school. We have a registered school nurse available on each campus. One of the forms we ask you to complete at the beginning of each school year is a form authorizing designated school employees to consent to medical treatment in case your child is injured at school or a school related activity and requires emergency treatment. We, of course, will call you in such a situation and will also call for emergency medical assistance. It is important, however, that you understand that the school district is not responsible for any cost of medical treatment or services provided after an injury at school or a school related activity. We cannot and will not use public funds to pay individual student medical expenses. At the beginning of each school year, we offer you the opportunity to purchase low cost student accident insurance that covers

the student while at school. You may also purchase a policy that covers the student 24 hours a day. The school district is not the policyholder for this insurance; if you decide that additional protection would be a benefit and protection to you and your family, the contract is between you and the insurance company. Although we want your child to attend school every day, we do not want your child at school if she or he has a communicable disease or is running a fever of 100° or more. Under State and local Health Department regulations, if your child has certain medical conditions, she or he must be excluded from school for a period of time.

### ***Medication***

Often, students have to take prescription medication for a certain period of time as treatment for a medical condition. If at all possible, we ask that you schedule the timing of the doses so that the child takes the medicine at home. If children have to take medicine at school, you must make a written request for the administration and provide only the doses to be administered at school in the original prescription bottle. Only the nurse or other authorized school employees are permitted to administer prescription medicines at school. Other than prescription asthma medicine, we do not permit students to carry their own medications and self administer.

To comply with Texas State Law and the local F.I.S.D. school board policy, the following restrictions apply to the taking of medications by students while at school:

1. All medications are to be brought to and kept in the school clinic.
2. Prescription and nonprescription medicine must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration and in its original container. Prescription medicine must be in a container with the pharmacy label, written in English, specific for that student.
3. Nonprescription medicine labels (including food supplements, herbal preparations, nutritional supplements or other alternative therapies) must include all of the following:
  - a. Indications for usage
  - b. Dosage appropriate for age and weight
  - c. Active and inactive ingredients
  - d. Side effects/warnings

Try to schedule medications to be taken at home, not at school. Legal factors limit school employees in the administration of medication including aspirin. If it is necessary that the nurse administer medication during school, a signed Parent Request for Administering Medication Form must accompany medication. Forms are available on the campus website or in the Nurse's Office.

### ***Immunization***

In order to enroll in school, a student must be fully immunized against certain diseases or must present a certificate or statement that, for medical or religious reasons, the student should not be immunized. The immunizations required are:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, polio (DTaP) 4 to 5 doses, the last dose given after the 4th birthday
- Oral polio vaccine (OPV) 4 doses, the last dose given after the 4th birthday

- Hemophilus Influenza HIB vaccine
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) 2 doses, the first dose given after 1st birthday
- Hepatitis B 3 doses
- Varicella (chickenpox) 1 dose given after 1st birthday, or documentation of date in which child had chickenpox disease
- Hepatitis A 2 doses required for Kindergarten - 8th grade, the first dose must have been received on or after the first birthday

The school nurse can provide information on age appropriate doses or on an acceptable physician validated history of illness required by the Texas Department of Health. Proof of immunization may be personal records from a licensed physician or public health clinic with a signature or rubber stamp validation. If a student should not be immunized for medical reasons, the student or parent must present a certificate signed by a U.S. licensed physician that states, in the doctor's opinion, the immunization required would be harmful to the health and wellbeing of the student or any member of the student's family or household. This certificate must be renewed yearly unless the physician specifies a lifelong contraindication. If a student's religious beliefs conflict with the requirement that the student be immunized, the student must present a statement signed by the student (or by the parent if the student is a minor) that states that immunization conflicts with the beliefs and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the student is an adherent or member. This statement must be renewed yearly.

If your child has unique medical conditions or any other condition, such as a food allergy, that requires virtually immediate administration of medications under specified conditions, please contact the nurse, who will schedule a meeting of appropriate personnel to ensure that your child's needs are met.

### ***Bacterial Meningitis***

What is meningitis?

Meningitis is an inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by viruses, parasites, fungi, and bacteria. Viral meningitis is most common and the least serious. Bacterial meningitis is the most common form of serious bacterial infection with the potential for serious, long term complications. It is an uncommon disease, but requires urgent treatment with antibiotics to prevent permanent damage or death. What are the symptoms? Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms. Children (over 1 year old) and adults with meningitis may have a severe headache, high temperature, vomiting, sensitivity to bright lights, neck stiffness or joint pains, and drowsiness or confusion. In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red/purple spots. These can occur anywhere on the body. The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory results.

How serious is bacterial meningitis?

If it is diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. In some cases it can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability.

How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that causes meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. The germs live naturally in the back of our noses and throats, but they do not live for long outside the body. They are spread when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing, sharing drinking container, utensils, or cigarettes). The germ does not cause meningitis in most people. Instead, most people become carriers of the germ for days, weeks or even months. The bacteria rarely overcome the body's immune system and causes meningitis or another serious illness.

How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

Do not share food, drinks, utensils, toothbrushes, or cigarettes. Limit the number of people you kiss. While there are vaccines for some other strains of bacterial meningitis, they are used only in special circumstances. These include when there is a disease outbreak in a community or for people traveling to a country where there is a high risk of getting the disease. Also, a vaccine is recommended by some groups for college students, particularly freshmen living in dorms or residence halls. The vaccine is safe and effective (85-90%). It can cause mild side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to two days. Immunity develops within 7 to 10 days after the vaccine is given and lasts for up to 5 years. What you should do if you think you or a friend might have bacterial meningitis? Seek prompt medical attention. For more information Your school nurse, family doctor, and the staff at your local or regional health department office are excellent sources for information on all communicable diseases. You may also call your local health department or Regional Texas Department of Health office to ask about meningococcal vaccine. Additional information may also be found at the web sites for the Centers for Disease control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and the Texas Department of Health: [www.tdh.state.tx.us](http://www.tdh.state.tx.us).

### ***Screenings Your Child Will Receive While in School***

The State of Texas requires the school nurse to screen your child's vision, hearing, and acanthosis nigricans. The vision screening is done with an eye chart at 20 feet away. A referral is sent home if the child's eyesight is less than 20/30 in one or both eyes in Kindergarten, First, and Second grade, and less than 20/20 in one or both eyes in Third grade. The hearing screening is done with a calibrated audiometer. Both ears are tested on every student. If a student does not pass the first screening, they are screened once more before notifying parents. Acanthosis Nigricans is a visual screening that appears as a skin condition. This screening is done on first and third graders. Acanthosis Nigricans screenings can help identify persons who have high insulin levels and who may be at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes. Parents will be notified by the school nurse if your child is having difficulties in any of the above areas.

## **CURRICULUM AND PROGRAMS**

### ***General Curriculum Information***

FISD operates a PPCD—12 program which meets all state curriculum requirements. Schools are organized by grade level, with separate campuses for elementary (PPCD—grade 3), middle school (grades 4-5), junior high (6-8), and high school (grades 9-12).

### ***Special Programs***

To meet the requirements of state and federal law, we also offer several programs designed to meet specific needs of some of our students. We identify students as eligible for one or more of these programs based on assessments made after referrals and recommendations from teachers and counselors and will always inform you about the program beforehand. We also can identify students based on an assessment after a request or referral from you. If you have any questions about the referral and identification process for any of the following programs, please contact your child's teacher(s), counselor, or the campus principal.

### ***Special Education***

FISD provides special education and related services for students with disabilities according to individualized plans developed by teachers, parents, counselors, and other professionals. We decide whether a student needs special education after we complete a comprehensive assessment. Please contact the Executive Director of Special Education at 281-482-0687, or your principal to receive full information about our special education programs.

### ***Dyslexia Services***

Students with dyslexia who are in need of assistance are provided small group instruction through either regular or special education. Students with dyslexia may qualify for further services through 504 identification.

### ***Section 504***

Some students who are not eligible for special education and related services may also have disabilities that interfere with their ability to benefit from the regular school program. A committee of educators who have knowledge of the student and his or her needs and limitations will determine what accommodations to the regular method and requirements of instruction are necessary in order for the student to participate. Please contact your assistant principal to receive full information about the school's Section 504 program.

### ***English as a Second Language***

English is the basic language of instruction in our schools. Children who have limited English speaking skills will have access to programs to help them learn to understand, speak, read, and write the English language. At the time you enroll your children for the first time, you will be asked to complete a Home Language Survey so we know whether to take additional steps to be sure your child is properly served.

### ***Title I***

The Title I program is funded to assist children who are having difficulty in Reading and Math. Identified students are pulled for small group instruction to address areas of difficulty.

### ***Gifted and Talented Students***

The Gifted and Talented Program at Cline has two components, the regular classroom and the G/T classroom (pull out). In the regular class, a number of students are grouped so that the classroom teacher may accelerate the curriculum when appropriate. The regular classroom teacher has an identified interest in G/T curriculum and has made a commitment to additional training in that area. He/She also consults frequently with G/T teacher. The G/T teacher works with the regular classroom teacher and also pulls the students for sessions each week. In the G/T class, enrichment is provided through general exploration, group training, and individual and small group investigation of real issues and problems. The G/T teacher also monitors acceleration of curriculum in the regular classroom and provides support where needed.

Students are screened each spring for admission to the Gifted and Talented Program. Nominations are accepted from August through April. New students to the district who were in a previous GT program are screened when they arrive. Nominations for screening may be submitted by teachers, administrators, and/or parents. Students may be screened only once during an academic year.

### ***Supplemental Reading Program (SRP)***

Cline Elementary provides early reading intervention through SRP to students who experience difficulty in acquiring reading skills. Consideration for placement in this program is reviewed by the RtI (Response to Intervention) committee problem solving team.

### ***Early Childhood Program (ECP)***

Westwood Elementary hosts the FISD Early Childhood Program. It is designed to provide our youngest students with the opportunity to gain fundamental skills for learning. ECP Eligibility is based on providing proof for one or more of the following characteristics: Have an active military parent(s), qualify as economically disadvantaged, speak English as their second language, are homeless, have been in foster care, qualify as a student needing special education services (PPCD age 3-5). ECP Students must also be 4 years old on or before September 1 of the year they enroll. (PPCD students may become eligible as of their 3rd birthday).

### ***Options and Requirements For Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education***

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular

classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students. At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 60 calendar days of the date of the district receives the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent. If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice must inform the parent how to obtain a copy of the Notice of Procedural Safeguards Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities. The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education is: Contact Person: School Counselor Phone Number: 281-482-1201.

Opciones y requisitos para proporcionar ayuda a los estudiantes que tienen dificultades en el aprendizaje o que necesitan o pueden necesitar educación Especial Si un niño está experimentando dificultades en el aprendizaje, el padre puede comunicarse con la persona mencionada más abajo para enterarse sobre el sistema de estudios de diagnóstico y de recomendación de la educación general del distrito para los servicios de apoyo. Este sistema conecta a los estudiantes con una variedad de opciones de apoyo, incluyendo la recomendación para una evaluación para educación especial. Los estudiantes que tienen dificultades en el aula normal deberán ser considerados para tutoría, servicios compensatorios y otros servicios de apoyo disponibles para todos los estudiantes.

En cualquier momento, un padre tiene derecho a solicitar una evaluación para los servicios de educación especial. Dentro de un período de tiempo razonable, el distrito debe decidir si la evaluación es necesaria. Si la evaluación es necesaria, el padre será notificado y se le pedirá que dé consentimiento para la evaluación. El distrito debe completar la evaluación y el informe dentro de los 60 días de calendario desde la fecha en que el distrito reciba el consentimiento por escrito. El distrito debe darle una copia del informe al padre.

Si el distrito determina que la evaluación no es necesaria, el distrito proporcionará al padre una notificación por escrito que explica el motivo por el cual el niño no será evaluado. Esta notificación por escrito incluirá información que le explica al padre los derechos que tiene si no está de acuerdo con el distrito. Además, la notificación debe informarle al padre la manera de obtener una copia de la Notificación de las Salvaguardas del Procedimiento – Derecho de los Padres de Estudiantes con Discapacidades.

La persona designada con quien puede comunicarse en relación a las opciones que tiene un niño que experimenta dificultades en el aprendizaje o para una recomendación para la evaluación para educación especial es:

Persona de contacto: Aconsejera escolar Número de teléfono: 281-482-1201.

### ***Counseling Programs and Services***

CHARACTER COUNTS! at Cline. Classroom guidance lessons teach and model the six Pillars of character Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. These sessions are interactive in nature and designed to emphasize the character traits of the FSD Board adopted character Education Program. Special assemblies throughout the year reinforce the material in these lessons. Our counselor works with students individually, in small group sessions and in the classroom to assist them as they learn lifelong skills like working cooperatively, making friends, processing feelings, resolving conflicts, and solving problems. Parents are encouraged to contact the counselor with individual concerns about their child's development, academic progress, or emotional needs. The counselor meets with teachers to discuss individual student's needs and assess any classroom issues.

### ***School Expectations***

School student expectations are based on techniques that research has proven successful and include the principles the Character Pillars. The following is what is expected of each student:

1. Follow directions quickly
2. Raise hand for permission to speak
3. Raise hand for permission to leave your seat
4. Make smart choices

### ***Character Pillars***

A person of character:

- is trustworthy , lives with integrity, is honest, reliable and loyal.
- values all persons and lives by the Golden Rule, respects the dignity, privacy and freedom of others, is courteous, polite to all and is tolerant and accepting of others.
- is responsible , accountable, pursues excellence and exercises self control.
- is fair and just, is impartial, listens and is open to differing viewpoints.
- is caring , compassionate, kind, loving, considerate and charitable.
- is a good citizen by helping the community and playing by the rules.

### ***Bucketfilling***

Everyone carries an invisible bucket that holds our good thoughts and feelings. When our buckets are full, we feel happy and when our buckets are empty, we feel sad. We are a "bucketfilling school. The entire staff understands the concepts of bucketfilling, uses the language, sees the importance of keeping their own buckets filled and models being Bucketfillers themselves. Children learn best when they feel "connected" and understand that their teacher, other staff and their classmates genuinely care about them. When they feel safe and valued, their buckets are filled and their mental and emotional needs are met. Children with full buckets receive a huge boost in their ability to learn and absorb information. If you want to learn more about bucketfilling, visit the website, [www.bucketfillers101.com](http://www.bucketfillers101.com).

### ***Testing and Assessment Programs***

In addition to routine testing and other measures of achievement, students at certain grade levels will take assessment tests:

1. STAAR Reading and Mathematics Grade 3
2. PAPI (Phonemic Awareness and Phonics Inventory) Grades K 2
3. DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) K3
4. TELPAS Required of Limited English Proficient students by the state Grades 2 & 3
5. MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) K3
6. CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test)

### ***Grading and Report Cards***

Grade levels establish their grading standards, including late work and makeup policy, which will be communicated with parents at the beginning of the year. If you have a question about a grade your child receives on an assignment, you should talk first with the teacher. Report cards are issued at the end of each nine weeks. Progress reports are sent out midway through each nine weeks to students who are failing or in danger of failing.

Kindergarten: E (Excellent), S (Satisfactory), N (Needs Improvement), U (Unsatisfactory) and a developmental checklist using 3, 2, 1.

- 3 – At Expected Level
- 2 – Progressing Towards Expected Level
- 1 – Needs Improvement
- 1 st grade : E, S, N, U for conduct and a developmental checklist using 4, 3, 2, 1
- 4 - Exceeding Grade Level Expectations
- 3 - Meeting Grade Level Expectations
- 2 - Progress Below Grade Level Expectations
- 1 - Little or No Improvement 2nd and 3rd grade: All core subjects will have numerical grades, while the other subjects will be scored with E, S, N, or U.

The following grading scale is used:

- 90 - 100– Excellent E – Excellent
- 80 - 89 – Above average S – Satisfactory
- 75 - 79 – Average N – Needs Improvement
- 70 - 74 – Passing, but below average U – Unsatisfactory
- 69 and below – Failing

### ***Homework***

Homework will be assigned to develop/strengthen skills and used as a means of developing appropriate and responsible school habits. Parents can reinforce and assist students in developing these habits by monitoring contents of the folder daily. Homework is typically sent home with the children when:

1. Work is not completed during class time. All work that should have been completed during class time is due the following morning.
2. Special assignments are to be done for enrichment purposes.
3. Additional help, review, or practice is needed and class time is not sufficient.
4. Reinforcement and practice of skills.

### ***Promotion, Retention***

Students in grades K and 1 are promoted based upon a demonstration of mastering the curriculum as indicated by a preponderance, or majority of mastery items indicated on the report card. Students in Grades 2 and 3 are promoted based on their mastery of the knowledge and skills that will let them be successful at the next grade level. Promotion is based on achievement. In order to be promoted to the next grade, a student must have a combined average of at least a 70 for content area classes. Additionally, the student must have a 70 average in each of the following classes: math and language arts. If a student fails to meet the criteria for promotion, a Grade Placement Committee will determine placement or retention.

### ***Library/Media Center***

The library is an integral part of a child's learning experience. All types of instructional and educational materials are available. Students will have the opportunity to check out books, listen to stories from various literatures, and receive instruction in library skills. Library books are to be returned prior to checking out more books. The due date is stamped on a slip in the back of the book. If you have a concern about library materials available to your child, please contact the librarian, teacher, or the principal. We have a policy and process that will allow you to explain your concerns and reach an understanding about your child's access to the questioned materials.

### ***Physical Education***

When participating in P.E., girls may wear shorts under their dresses if they choose. No child will be allowed to take part in some of the activities unless they have tennis shoes. This is for the safety of your child. They may wear other shoes and bring tennis shoes to change into before going to P.E. If your child is ill and unable to participate in P.E., please send a note to the P.E. teacher. P.E. teachers welcome your child to their Physical Education class. They are looking forward to a year of developing physical awareness, healthful motor skills, positive attitude toward physical education, and good sportsmanship. In reaching P.E. goals, activities for the year could include basic skills in ball handling, gymnastics, volleyball, soccer, softball and aerobics, group games, running daily exercises and the FitnessGram. P.E. grades will be based on a child's cooperation, participation, and conduct rather than on his/her athletic ability. The FitnessGram physical fitness assessment will be offered to all 3rd graders in FISD. It is an assessment designed to establish a baseline of a healthy fitness zone from which students can set goals and check their progress (noncompetitive) to plan for lifelong physical activity and to maintain and improve their fitness level. Health-related fitness assessment measures student's aerobic capacity, muscular strength/endurance, flexibility and body composition. A copy of the Fitness Gram will be sent home to the parents. FISD remains diligent in adhering to all state and

Federal PE requirements.

### ***Technology Program***

Our program is an educational setting, which produces technologically capable students. There are six categories that make up our framework. They are concepts and operations, productivity tools, communication tools, research tools, problem solving and decisionmaking, and social issues. Teachers use this framework to plan and provide technological activities for students to prepare them to make informed decisions about technology in their lives.

### ***Educational Technology and Acceptable Use***

We are steadily acquiring computers for school use and access to other instructional and research resources through connections to the Internet and the World Wide Web. These electronic instructional resources are for use at school and for school related purposes. Before your child is permitted to receive a User Identification and password to use school computers, you and your child must sign a User Agreement that explains acceptable and unacceptable use of school educational technology. You will have the choice to prevent your child from having access to the Internet on school computers.

### ***Friendswood ISD Student Guidelines Responsible Use Policy***

Friendswood Independent School District provides a variety of electronic resources for educational purposes. District electronic resources are defined as the District's network (including the wireless network), servers, computer workstations, mobile technologies, peripherals, applications, databases, online resources, Internet access, email, and any other technology designated for use by students, including all new technologies as they become available. This also includes any access to Friendswood ISD electronic resources while on or near school property, in school vehicles and at school sponsored activities, and includes the appropriate use of district technology resources via off campus remote access. Please note that the Internet is a network of many types of communication and information networks, including Web 2.0 resources (Blogs, Wikis, Podcasts, etc.), and is part of the district's electronic resources. Web 2.0 applications offer a variety of 21st Century communication, collaboration, and educational creativity opportunities. In a 21st Century school system, technologies, the Internet, and Web 2.0 tools are essential. In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, Friendswood Independent School District educates staff and students regarding appropriate online behavior to insure Internet safety, including use of email and Web 2.0 resources, and has deployed filtering technology and protection measures to restrict access to inappropriate content such as those that are illegal, harmful, or contain potentially offensive information. While every effort is made to provide the most secure and optimal learning environment, it is not possible to absolutely prevent access (accidental or otherwise) to inappropriate content. It is each student's responsibility to follow the guidelines for appropriate and responsible use.

### ***SOME GUIDELINES FOR RESPONSIBLE USE***

- Students must only open, view, modify, and delete their own computer files.

- Internet use at school must be directly related to school assignments and projects.
- Students may be assigned individual email and network accounts and must use only those accounts and passwords that they have been granted permission by the district to use. All account activity should be for educational purposes only.
- Students must immediately report threatening messages or discomfoting Internet files/sites to a teacher.
- Students must at all times use the district's electronic resources, including email, wireless network access, and Web 2.0 tools/resources to communicate only in ways that are kind and respectful.
- Students are responsible at all times for their use of the district's electronic resources and must assume personal responsibility to behave ethically and responsibly, even when technology provides them freedom to do otherwise.

### ***SOME EXAMPLES OF INAPPROPRIATE USE***

- Using any electronic resource for illegal purposes including, but not limited to: cyberbullying, gambling, pornography, and computer hacking.
- Disabling or attempting to disable any system monitoring or filtering or security measures.
- Sharing usernames and passwords with others; and/or borrowing someone else's username, password, or account access.
- Purposefully opening, viewing, using or deleting files belonging to another system user without permission.
- Electronically posting personal information about one's self or others that is inappropriate or too revealing.
- Downloading or plagiarizing copyrighted information without permission from the copyright holder.
- Intentionally introducing a virus or other malicious programs onto the district's system.
- Electronically posting media or accessing materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, racist, harassing, illegal or damaging to another's reputation.
- Electronically lobbying for political purposes.
- Wasting or abusing school resources through unauthorized system use (e.g., playing online games, downloading software or music, watching video broadcast, participating in chat rooms, etc.).
- Gaining unauthorized access to restricted information or network resources.
- Purposefully utilizing the district's electronic resources in any way that disrupts the use of any computers or networks by others.

### ***EMAIL***

- Friendswood ISD staff may arrange for electronic communications, and electronic storage accounts for students on a limited basis for instructional purposes only. As the district provides these accounts, they are considered to be district accounts not personal accounts, and therefore governed by applicable district policies. All communications and

data accessible from these accounts are not considered to be private and shall be monitored by district staff.

- Messages and data in violation of this or other district policies may be archived and/or deleted without notification.
- All users of any electronic mail either provided by the District or transmitted through the District's technology resources are required to comply with this Responsible Use Policy.
- Never assume electronic mail is private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the authorities and the District will comply with state and federal laws, as well as court orders or subpoenas that will require disclosure.

### ***SPECIAL NOTE: CYBERBULLYING***

Cyberbullying is defined as the use of any Internet-connected device for the purpose of bullying, harassing, or intimidating another student. This includes, but may not be limited to:

- Sending abusive text messages to cell phones, computers, or Internet-connected game consoles.
- Posting abusive comments on someone's blog or social networking site (e.g., Facebook, Instagram or Twitter)
- Creating a social networking site or web page that masquerades as the victim's personal site and using it to embarrass him or her.
- Making it appear that the victim is posting malicious comments about friends to isolate him or her from friends.
- Posting the victim's personally identifiable information on a site to put them at greater risk of contact by predators.
- Sending abusive comments while playing interactive games.
- Acquiring and/or sharing media, sometimes manipulating it to embarrass the target.

### ***CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE***

- Appropriate disciplinary or legal action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable laws including monetary damages.
- Suspension of access to the district's electronic resources.
- Revocation of the district's electronic account(s); and/or
- Termination of System User Account: The district may deny, revoke, or suspend specific user's access to the district's system with or without cause or notice for lack of use, violation of policy or regulations regarding acceptable network use, or as a result of disciplinary actions against user.
- Possible criminal action.

### ***Policy for Responsible Use of Computers and Networks Student's Agreement***

By signing this form, I acknowledge receipt of, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and standards set forth in the Friendswood Independent School District Policy for Responsible Use of Computers and Networks. I understand that to gain access to the Friendswood ISD electronic resources, I must return this form signed by me and my parent or legal guardian. I further understand that any violation of the Policy for Responsible Use of Computers and Networks is

unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, monetary liability may be incurred, school disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. I understand that this agreement will be in effect for one school year and must be resigned in subsequent years.

PRINTED Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Policy for Responsible Use of Computers and Networks Parent or Legal Guardian's Agreement  
I have read, understand, and agree with the Friendswood Independent School District Policy for Responsible Use of Computers and Networks. I understand that by signing this form I give permission for Friendswood ISD to grant access to district electronic resources, including the Internet. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I understand that Friendswood ISD has taken reasonable precautions to eliminate access to inappropriate material and I will not hold the district or staff members responsible if inappropriate material is inadvertently accessed. I understand that this agreement will be in effect for one school year and must be resigned in subsequent years.

PRINTED Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

***DISTRICT ELECTRONIC PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICE POLICY***

An electronic personal mobile device is any personally owned device that is used to communicate, access, create or share media via the internet or an individual's personal data plan. It is our goal that students and teachers collaborate in rich, engaging learning experiences using technology.

***FHS & FJH***

Students attending FHS & FJH will be allowed to bring an electronic personal mobile device to school and log on to the student wireless network, only. Devices may be used in the classroom upon teacher approval.

***Elementary and Intermediate Campuses***

Students may bring their own electronic personal mobile device to their classroom when the teacher deems them appropriate for educational purposes. These devices will not be allowed to access Internet content through the district's wireless network while at school.

ALL PERSONAL DEVICES SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELED WITH STUDENT'S FULL NAME.

Students are responsible for personal property brought to school and should keep personal items with self or in a locked space . Devices should be charged prior to bringing to school. Devices brought by students are not eligible for technical support and must adhere to these responsible use guidelines while on school grounds. The school is not responsible for students who bring their own Internet connectivity via air-cards or data plan on a mobile device. In the event the technology is used inappropriately, normal disciplinary consequences may occur.

#### *Disclaimers*

1. Friendswood ISD and its individual schools, administrators, faculty, and staff thereof, make no warranties of any kind for the service provided and will not be held responsible for any damage suffered by users. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, miss-deliveries, and intrusion by computer virus, or service interruption
2. Use of any information obtained via network access is at the risk of the user, and Friendswood ISD specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of the Information obtained.
3. Friendswood ISD cannot guarantee complete protection from inappropriate material. Furthermore, it is impossible for the district or content filter to reflect each individual or family's opinions of what constitutes "inappropriate material." If a student mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, he/she should immediately notify a district staff member.
4. Friendswood ISD is not liable for an individual's inappropriate use of district's electronic resources or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, or for costs incurred by users through use of Friendswood ISD's electronic resources.
5. Friendswood ISD is not liable for any individual's personal device lost, stolen or damaged while at school or on school property.
6. The District will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the District's electronic resources.

Students bringing electronic devices will be required to follow the Responsible Use Policy and the Bring Your Own Device Policy/Procedures located in the FISD Administrative Policy section of this manual. Included in the Responsible Use Policy are examples of appropriate and inappropriate use of cellular phones. A school telephone is available for students to use during regular school hours. Any violation of this policy during school hours will result in the following discipline:

**First Offense:** Electronic device confiscated and returned to parent.

**Second Offense:** Electronic device confiscated and returned to parent after 3 school days.

**Third Offense:** Electronic device confiscated and returned to parent after 5 school days.

**Fourth Offense and All Subsequent Offenses:** Subject to above and additional disciplinary action as determined by the designated administrator.

Unclaimed electronic devices will be disposed of at the end of the school year. The District is not responsible for missing or lost equipment. Students will be disciplined for insubordination if, upon confiscation of the electronic device, the student refuses to give the device to school personnel or the student attempts to remove the SIM card, the battery, or erase data before handing over the electronic device. School personnel may review data on a confiscated electronic device if a student is involved in an administrative investigation and the administrator has a reasonable suspicion that a search of the electronic device data will turn up evidence that the student has violated the law or school Code of Student Conduct. Failure to provide an access code, any of the components, or anything else needed to view the necessary data will be considered insubordination.

### ***REQUIRED LEGAL NOTICES***

#### ***Nondiscrimination***

Friendswood ISD does not discriminate in its educational programs and services on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, or disability. The District complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any questions or concerns about the district's compliance with these federal programs should be brought to the attention of the person shown below as Title IX or Section 504 Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinators office is located at 302 Laurel Drive and can be reached by telephone by calling 281-482-1267. The Section 504 Coordinator for the school district is Karen Deshotel, whose office is located at 402 Laurel and who can be reached by telephone by calling 281-482-0687.

#### ***Asbestos Statement***

Friendswood ISD maintains compliance mandated by both Federal and State laws governing asbestos in school buildings. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan can be found in the main office of each campus. If you have any questions or would like to examine the district's Asbestos Management Plan in more detail, please contact the district's Asbestos Designated Person, Mari Castellanos, at 281-482-2744 or by email at [mcastellanos@fisd12.net](mailto:mcastellanos@fisd12.net).

#### ***Integrated Pest Management Notice***

As part of our commitment to provide your child with a safe, pestfree learning environment, the Friendswood Independent School District may periodically apply pesticides to help manage insects, rodents, weeds, or pathogens. Pesticide applications are part of our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program, which relies largely on non-chemical forms of pest control. Pesticide applications on Fisd property are made only by trained and licensed technicians. Should you have questions about the district's pest management program or to be notified in advance of pesticide applications, you may contact the district IPM Coordinator, Joel Hannemann, at 281-482-2744 or by email at [jhannemann@fisd12.net](mailto:jhannemann@fisd12.net).

#### ***Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act***

The school district creates and keeps general education records for all students enrolled in district schools. Those records are confidential and generally are available only to parents and school personnel or people who are acting on behalf of the school district. When we say “parents” have a right of access to and copies of all education records pertaining to their children, we mean all biological or legal parents—whether married, divorced, or separated—and any other person who is acting as a parent in the absence of the child’s parent or legal guardian.

Parents control the access to their children’s education records until the child becomes an adult at age 18. When the child reaches age 18, she or he controls the access to his or her records and is the one who can consent to the release of the records to other persons. However, parents continue to have a right to see and copy their children’s education records so long as the child is a dependent for federal income tax purposes, even if the child does not want them to. If a parent wants to see or copy his or her child’s education records, she or he should contact the principal of the child’s school if the child is currently enrolled. If the child has withdrawn or graduated, parents should contact the school superintendent for access to records. Records can be reviewed in administrative offices during regular office hours, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and someone will be available to answer questions about the records. Originals cannot be removed from the principal’s or superintendent’s office. Copies will be provided to parents within a reasonable time, usually not more than two or three days, after parents have made a written request for copies. Parents will be charged the district’s usual copying fees for copies; however, if the student is eligible for free or reduced price lunches and the parents cannot come to school to review the records, the school will provide one copy of the requested records at no charge. If you disagree with information in your child’s records or believe some information is inaccurate, you can ask for a correction. If the principal does not make the correction, you can ask for a hearing with the superintendent to explain why you believe the record is wrong or misleading. If the superintendent does not direct an amendment to be made, you have 30 days to place a comment in the student’s record about the information. Under no circumstances can students or parents use this process to challenge a grade recorded for a student. Because parents generally control access to their children’s education records, the district ordinarily will not permit access to or copies of education records without at least one parent’s written authorization to release the records. However, under some circumstances, the district can and will provide access to or copies of education records without parent authorization.

*The most common circumstances are these:*

- The district will forward education records on request to a public or private school or institution of higher education in which the student seeks or intends to enroll.
- The district will comply with a lawful subpoena for student education records, but will make reasonable efforts to notify the parents before complying, unless the subpoena indicates that parents should not be notified.
- The district will release directory information about students to any person who submits a written request for the information.
- The district will release educational records to a juvenile justice agency in accordance with an agreement with between the district and the agency. The information will be

released before the student is adjudicated and will be provided so that the juvenile agency can appropriately serve the student.

If you do not want the school to release directory information about your child, you must notify the principal in writing of the category or categories of information that you do not want released. You have 10 school days after you receive this Handbook to tell the principal in writing what information you do not want released. If you want to review the school's entire policy regarding student records, please contact the campus principal, who will be glad to provide a copy for you and to answer any questions you may have about the policy or this notice. If you believe the district is not following the law regarding student records, you have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education.

***NOTICE OF PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT, 20 U.S.C. SEC 1232G AMENDED OCTOBER 19, 2006***

The Friendswood School District maintains general education records required by law. A student's school records are private and are protected from unauthorized inspection or use. A cumulative record is maintained for each student from the time the student enters the District until the student withdraws or graduates. This record moves with the student from school to school. By law, both parents, whether married, separated, or divorced, have access to the records of a student who is a minor or a dependent for tax purposes. A parent whose rights have been legally terminated will be denied access to the records if the school is given a copy of the court order termination of these rights.

The principal is custodian of all records for currently enrolled students at the assigned school. The Superintendent is the custodian of all records for students who have withdrawn or graduated. Records may be reviewed during regular school business hours. The record custodian or designee will respond to reasonable requests for explanation and interpretation of the records. The address of the Superintendent's office is: 302 Laurel Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546. The address of the principals' offices are: Cline Primary, 505 Briar Meadow; Westwood Elementary, 506 W. Edgewood; Bales Intermediate, 211 Stadium Lane; Windsong Intermediate, 2100 West Parkwood; Friendswood Junior High, 1000 Manison Parkway; Friendswood High School, 702 Greenbriar.

Parent of a minor or a student who is dependent for tax purposes, the student (if 18 or older), and school officials with legitimate educational interests are the only persons who have general access to a student's records. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the District's Board of Trustees; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist or School Resource Officer); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks; or employees, agents of cooperatives of which the District is a member, or of facilities with which the District contracts for placement of handicapped students, as well as their attorneys and consultants, who are (1) working with the

student; (2) considering disciplinary or academic actions, the student's case, or a handicapped student's individual education plan (IEP); (3) compiling statistical data; or (4) investigating or evaluating programs. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Certain other officials from various governmental agencies may have limited access to the records. The District forwards a student's records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll without the necessity of the parent's permission. Parental consent is required to release the records to anyone else unless the District has received a validly issued subpoena or court order, or if another exception contained in FERPA applies. When the student reaches 18 years of age, the right to consent to release records transfers to the student. The parent's or student's right of access to, and copies of, student records does not extend to all records. Materials that are not considered educational records, such as teachers' personal notes on a student that are shared only with a substitute teacher and records that only contain information about an individual after he or she is no longer a student in the district do not have to be made available to the parents or students.

Students over 18 and parents of minor students may inspect the student's records and request a correction if the records are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights. If the District refuses the request to amend the records, the requestor has 30 school days to exercise the right to place a statement commenting on the information in the student's record. Although improperly recorded grades may be challenged, parents and students are not allowed to contest a student's grade in a course through this process. Parent or students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if they believe the District is not in compliance with the law regarding student records.

Copies of a student's records are available at a cost of \$.10 per page, payable in advance. Parents may be denied copies of a student's records (1) after the student reaches age 18 and is no longer a dependent for tax purposes; (2) when the student is attending an institution of postsecondary education; (3) if the parent fails to follow proper procedures and pay the copying charge; or (4) when the District is given a copy of a court order terminating the parental rights. If the student qualifies for free or reduced price lunches and the parents are unable to view the records during regular school hours, upon written request of the parent, one copy of the record will be provided at no charge.

Certain information about District students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows procedures for requesting it, unless the parent objects to the release of any or all directory information about the child. This objection must be made in writing to the principal within ten school days after the issuance of this notice. Directory information includes: a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams and dates of attendance, awards received in school, and most recent previous school attended. The district's complete policy regarding student records is available from the principal's or superintendent's office.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS NOTICE SHOULD BE TRANSLATED FOR, OR EXPLAINED TO, THE PARENTS OF STUDENTS WHOSE PRIMARY OR HOME LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH.

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any nonemergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law;
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer to from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Friendswood ISD has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Friendswood ISD will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes.

Friendswood ISD will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. Friendswood ISD will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:  
Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 202025901  
Friendswood ISD

### ***Safety Transfers***

As parent you have the right to request the transfer of your child to attend a safe public school in the district if your child attends school at a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous or if your child has been a victim of a violent criminal offense while at school or on school grounds.

### ***Assistance for Homeless Students***

You are encouraged to inform the district if you or your child are experiencing homelessness. District staff can share resources with you that may be able to assist you and your family. For more information on services for homeless students, contact your campus administrator.

### ***Obtaining Information and Protecting Student Rights***

Your child will not be required to participate without parental consent in any survey, analysis, or evaluation—funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education—that concerns:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent.
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s family.
- Sexual behavior or attitudes.
- Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- Critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student has a close family relationship.
- Relationships privileged under law, such as relationships with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents.
- Income, except when the information is required by law and will be used to determine the student’s eligibility to participate in a special program or to receive financial assistance under such a program.

You will be able to inspect the survey or other instrument and any instructional materials used in connection with such a survey, analysis, or evaluation. [For further information, see policy EF.]

### ***Opting Out” of Surveys and Activities***

As a parent, you also have a right to receive notice and opt your child out of participating in any survey concerning the private information listed above, regardless of funding, along with school activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from your child for the purpose of marketing or selling that information; and/or any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered and scheduled by the school in advance and not necessary to protect the immediate health and

safety of the student. Exceptions are hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law. See policies EF and FFAA.

*As a parent, you also have a right:*

To request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teachers, including whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher has an emergency permit or other provisional status for which state requirements have been waived; and undergraduate and graduate degree majors, graduate certifications, and the field of study of the certification or degree. You also have the right to request information about the qualifications of any paraprofessional who may provide services to your child.

To review teaching materials, textbooks, and other teaching aids and instructional materials used in the curriculum, and to examine tests that have been administered to your child. To inspect a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to your child. To review your child's student records when needed. These records include:

- Attendance records
- Test scores
- Grades
- Disciplinary records
- Counseling records
- Psychological records
- Applications for admission,
- Health and immunization information
- Other medical records
- Teacher and counselor evaluations
- Reports of behavioral patterns
- State assessment instruments that have been administered to your child.

To grant or deny any written request from the District to make a videotape or voice recording of your child. State law, however, permits the school to make a videotape or voice recording without parental permission for the following circumstances:

- When it is to be used for school safety;
- When it relates to classroom instruction or a cocurricular or extracurricular activity; or
- When it relates to media coverage of the school.

To remove your child temporarily from the classroom, if an instructional activity in which your child is scheduled to participate conflicts with your religious or moral beliefs. The removal cannot be for the purpose of avoiding a test and may not extend for an entire semester. Further, your child must satisfy grade level and graduation requirements as determined by the school and by the Texas Education Agency. To request that your child be excused from participation in the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. The request must be in writing. State law does not allow your child

to be excused from participation in the required moment of silence or silent activity that follows. [See Pledges of Allegiance and a Minute of Silence in policy EC.]

To request that your child be excused from recitation of a portion of the Declaration of Independence. State law requires students in social studies classes in grades 312 to recite a portion of the text of the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week unless (1) you provide a written statement requesting that your child be excused, (2) the District determines that your child has a conscientious objection to the recitation, or (3) you are a representative of a foreign government to whom the United States government extends diplomatic immunity. [See policy EHBK]

To request in writing, if you are a noncustodial parent, that you be provided for the remainder of the school year a copy of any written notice usually provided to a parent related to misconduct that may involve placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or expulsion. See policies FL(LEGAL) and (LOCAL), FO(LEGAL) and the Student Code of Conduct.

### ***Emergency Procedures***

The safety of students and staff at Cline Elementary is always an important issue. In order to prepare for emergencies, staff and students practice a variety of drills, sometimes as a class and sometimes as a whole school. The following information is provided so parents/guardians will have a better understanding of the various drills and what to expect in case of an emergency.

### ***Drills***

Students, teachers, and other district employees will participate in drills utilizing emergency procedures. When the alarm is sounded, students and volunteers should quickly and quietly follow the directions of teachers or marshals. Drills that are practiced include: fire, bad weather, shelter in place, and lockdown drills. In case of a campus evacuation, Cline Elementary would be relocated to the Church of Jesus Christ of LatterDay Saints where parents could check out their child. In case of an emergency release by the district, all students would be dismissed from the gym. Parents or guardians will need to enter from the back of the building to go to the gym and be prepared to show identification.

### ***Severe Weather***

Occasionally, the threat of severe weather makes it necessary to dismiss school earlier than usual in order for buses and cars to be able to travel the normal routes. Examples of such problems are rapidly approaching hurricanes, or rapidly dropping temperatures that make freezing rain and road glazing a distinct possibility. Please be assured that when severe weather is a threat to this area, your school officials maintain a constant watch on changing weather conditions and stand ready to take the necessary actions for the dismissal of school and the immediate return of students to their homes if and when such circumstances warrant.

You, as a parent, can contribute to the welfare and safety of your child by observing the following recommendations:

1. Keep yourself well informed about the development, location, and movement of threatening weather.
2. **RECOGNIZE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EARLY SCHOOL DISMISSAL, WHICH WOULD RESULT IN YOUR CHILD'S RETURN TO HOME AT AN EARLIER TIME THAN USUAL AND BE PREPARED FOR SUCH AN EVENTUALITY.**
3. Complete student emergency card with all backup information.
4. If the severe weather poses a definite threat, feel free to pick up your child at school without telephoning in advance. Unnecessary phone calls will only tie up the lines and delay the process of getting all students safely to their homes. Do be sure, however, that your child is checked out through the school office.
5. Listen to radio stations KIKK, KTRH, KILT, and TV Station KTRK, local Network affiliated TV, for announcements concerning the dismissal or cancellation of school or the time when classes will be resumed if such dismissal or cancellation becomes necessary. You can also listen to the local radio station, 1650 AM.
6. Updates posted on FISD website [www.myfisd.com](http://www.myfisd.com)

### ***City of Friendswood Office of Emergency Management***

**Warning Siren System** The Siren Alerting System will be tested on the first Friday of every month at noon. The City of Friendswood has completed the installation of the Siren Alerting System. A total of six sirens have been installed throughout the city that will sound in the event of an emergency such as a tornado or pipeline rupture. Once the sirens have sounded, citizens are urged to stay inside and tune in to their local radio and television station for information. Additional information and updates will be announced on Friendswood Information Radio 1650 AM as conditions dictate. Citizens are asked to remember that they may be contacted via the First Call System with additional information. Friendswood Information Radio The city of Friendswood Information Radio WPMZ 659 is broadcast at 1650 AM on your dial. NOAA Weather from the National Weather Service is being rebroadcast 24 hours a day. Important local information from the city or school district may be broadcast on 1650 AM.

**First Call** The First Call System is a telephone-based community warning system that allows the City of Friendswood or school district to contact you via telephone with important information. Citizens with unlisted numbers who wish to be part of the notification system are encouraged to contact the Office of Emergency Management at 281-996-3335 to register their numbers. If there are any questions, please call the Friendswood Office of Emergency Management at 281-996-3335.